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of Wabash

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Indiana 114 closed for railroad work in North Manchester

Norfolk Southern is conducting the work between Beckley Street and Wabash Street in North Manchester. Motorists should use the posted detour of Indiana 13, Indiana 16 and Indiana 105. Work was expected to start on or after Monday, April 19 and will last for approximately five days.

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Webb's in North Manchester swapping J&J COVID-19 vaccines for Moderna

After canceling last week's appointments, new times scheduled for Friday

By ROB BURGESS  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

After canceling appointments last week, one local vaccination location which had been using the now-paused Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine is switching to an alternate so vaccinations may continue this week.

U.S. agencies on Tuesday,

April 13 recommended a "pause" in using the single-dose Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine to investigate reports of rare but potentially dangerous blood clots. The CDC and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced that they were investigating unusual clots that occurred 6 to 13 days after vaccination.

As a result, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) proactively notified all vaccination clinics that day using the single-dose Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine to pause its use.

Webb's Family Pharmacy in North Manchester had been offering weekly Johnson & Johnson vaccine appointments every Thursday starting March 18.

On Friday, Webb's Family Pharmacy confirmed by phone with the Plain Dealer

that they canceled all previously scheduled appointments set for last week, and had received no additional guidance from the ISDH about when they might be able to resume.

Later on Friday, in a message to the Plain Dealer, Webb's Family Pharmacy stated that they had been informed that their North Manchester location only would be receiving Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in the coming days.

On Tuesday, Webb's Fam-

ily Pharmacy in North Manchester stated they would begin taking appointments for this week, this time for Friday instead of the usual Thursday.

Also on Tuesday, the ISDH announced that 733 additional Hoosiers have been diagnosed with COVID-19 through testing at state and private laboratories. That brings to 709,455 the number of Indiana residents now known to have had the novel

See VACCINES, page A10



Photos by Rob Burgess / Plain Dealer

13-24 Drive-In Movie Theater co-owner Michael Beauchamp speaks during last week's meeting.

13-24 Drive-In Movie Theater added to National Register of Historic Places

Local landmark was given approval during a meeting last week in Westfield

By ROB BURGESS  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

A local landmark has officially been recognized by the National Register of Historic Places after a meeting of the Indiana Historical Preservation Review Board last week.

The 13-24 Drive-In Movie Theater was approved for addition to the state and national registers after the meeting held on the afternoon of Wednesday, April 14 at the Westfield City Hall Assembly Room.



Architectural historian Holly Tate recommends the property for inclusion.

During the meeting, architectural historian Holly Tate recommended the property for inclusion, which opened in 1951 on 17 acres on Wabash's

as well as its large, iconic neon and tracer bulb-lit highway sign, original driveway lights and car speakers," said Tate. "The massive outdoor screen overlooks 13 rows for automobile parking and a playground for children. The concessions building is centered in the parking area. Internally lit signs with row numbers are located at the north end of the parking rows at the entry drive. Driveway lighting also extends along with the entry and exit drives."

Tate said rows of car window speakers extend along the front edge of each parking row.

"An exit drive connects

See DRIVE-IN, page A10

Local schools receive millions in American Rescue Plan funds

Statewide allocations total nearly \$1.8B from federal stimulus

By ROB BURGESS  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Wabash County's three public school districts have been awarded millions as part of the third round of federal COVID-19 stimulus funding.

On Monday, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) announced the estimated funds that public school districts across the state will receive as part of the third round of federal stimulus dollars from the American Rescue Plan Act.

Together, these school allocations total nearly \$1.8 billion, said deputy director of communications Holly Lawson.

In Wabash County, MSD was awarded \$1,598,502.44; Wabash City Schools (WCS) was awarded \$2,353,564.97; and Manchester Community Schools (MCS) was awarded \$1,737,865.70.

On Tuesday, MCS superintendent Teresa L. Gremaux said the MCS school board, administrators and teachers are still in the planning stages "and will take the appropriate amount of time to wisely spend the funding allocations."

"The state statute does require all school corporations to reserve at least 20 percent toward addressing learning

See FUNDS, page A2

WCUF awards \$71,500 to five local organizations

The funds were part of its Emergency Relief Grant program

By ROB BURGESS  
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

On Monday, the Wabash County United Fund (WCUF) announced the award of \$71,500 to five local non-

profit organizations to help address issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, said executive director Steve Johnson.

Johnson said the funds were awarded as part of WCUF's Emergency Relief Grant (ERG), which was created to support organizations that provide services to struggling families.

"The first round of grants helped nonprofit organizations purchase products or services to be provided to the clients they serve, helped purchase supplies and devices to help keep their staff, clients, volunteers and visitors safe and healthy while in their facilities, and helped organizations purchase technology that allows them to operate

more safely," said Johnson. "This second round of grants prioritized areas of homelessness/low-income housing; mental health, addiction, assault, isolation counseling, early childcare and education support; job training; and certification and community health related to COVID-19."

Johnson said a committee consisting of representatives

of WCUF board of directors, including Mark Frantz and Julie McCann; Community Foundation of Wabash County, including Patty Grant and Julie Garber, Honeywell Endowment, including Eric Seaman, and Heartland REMC, including Rachel Cruz, reviewed the applications.

See WCUF, page A10



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Provided photo

A Cappella Choir is the university's largest mixed choir, with about 40 students.

# Bryan Bathke is an A Cappella Choir executive board officer at MU

By ANNE GREGORY

Bryan Bathke, of North Manchester, is an executive board member of the Manchester University A Cappella Choir.

A Cappella Choir is the university's largest mixed choir, with about 40 students. The choir under the direction of Professor Debra Lynn, director of vocal studies. Bathke is treasurer of the

board and majors in accounting and business management. Anne Gregory is the assistant director of media relations in the Office of Strategic Communications at Manchester University.

## PULSE

From page A1

### Wabash Art Guild Members' Art Show returns for 2021

The 61st annual Wabash Art Guild 2021 Members' Art Show will be on display through Sunday, April 25 at the Clark Gallery at the Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St. There will be free admission available for the Clark Gallery during these dates from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. The group is also interested in inviting new members who would like to contribute to their works. For more information, call 260-563-7690.

### Second Harvest to hold a tailgate food distribution

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned tailgate food distributions for 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 28 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147 Indiana 15. For more information, visit [www.curehunger.org](http://www.curehunger.org), [classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182](http://classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182) or <https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410>.

### WACT plans spring comedy

Performances of "Play On!" by Rick Abbot and directed by Brett Robinson have been scheduled for the weekend of Friday, April 30 through Sunday, May 2 at Southwood Jr.-Sr. High School, 564 Indiana 124. For more information, email [brett.a.robinson1@outlook.com](mailto:brett.a.robinson1@outlook.com).

### Shop Hop in Downtown Wabash runs through April

Wabash Marketplace's Shop Hop" in downtown Wabash takes place Thursday, April 1 through Friday, April 30 and includes a chance to win a prize of \$100 Shop Hop Dollars. Take the entry form to each participating business and receive a validation mark, no purchase necessary. Once the entry form is 100 percent completed, participants submit their entry to one of the participating shops or Bickford of Wabash, 3037 W. Division Road. Entry forms must be submitted by 5 pm Friday, April 30. The four businesses participating in Shop Hop are: Borders & Beyond, 24 W. Canal St.; Downtown Nutrition, 70 W. Market St.; Ohh My! Cakes, 2 W. Market St.; and Visit Wabash County, 221 S. Miami St. Entry forms are available at each of the participating businesses and a digital copy of the form is available at [www.wabashmarketplace.org](http://www.wabashmarketplace.org). The winner will be selected the week of Monday, May 3.

### National Day of Prayer events planned for Thursday, May 6

A pair of celebrations have been planned for the day, first from 12:10 to 12:50 p.m. on the lawn of the Wabash County Courthouse, and again at 6:30 p.m. at the Wabash City Park Pavilion. The guest speaker will be Indiana Statehouse Chaplain Matthew Barnes. For more information, visit [www.praywabash.org](http://www.praywabash.org).

### Local clean-up days announced

Mayor Scott Long said the city was working in conjunction with the Wabash County Solid Waste Management District's annual Spring Tox-Away Day. The city will offer curbside spring cleanup from Monday, May 3 through Friday, May 7. Piles for pickup should be no larger than 4 feet by 8 feet for collection by the Street Department personnel. Wabash's Tox-Away Day would be set from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 8, and that North Manchester's would be set from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 15. The gates will close "promptly" at 1 p.m. on both days.

### Grow Wabash County hosting Process Communication workshop

Registration is now open for Grow Wabash County's Process Communication Model (PCM) workshop scheduled for Monday, May 3 through Wednesday, May 5, at the Grow Wabash County office. Tuition for the workshop will be \$600. The tuition fee will cover the participant's course fees, an in-depth personalized PCM profile, and snacks and meals throughout the workshop. Those interested or representatives for their companies can do so at [www.growwabashcounty.com/pcmworkshop](http://www.growwabashcounty.com/pcmworkshop) or by contacting Grow Wabash County by email [info@growwabashcounty.com](mailto:info@growwabashcounty.com) or by phone at 260-563-5258.

### Visit Wabash County plans historic buildings tour for May

The tour will take place from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 8. The cost will be \$25 per person and will begin at the Visit Wabash County Welcome Center, 221 S. Miami St., Wabash. The North Manchester buildings included in the tour will be The Union Block and Straus Building, The Tower House and The L.Z. Bunker House. For more information, visit [www.visitwabashcounty.com/trolley-tours](http://www.visitwabashcounty.com/trolley-tours) or call 260-563-7171. Payment is due upon registration.

### Salamonie Lake workdays continue throughout summer

Salamonie Lake's Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews, will host a variety of volunteer work-related activities. Check-in and instructions will be available at the Interpretive and Nature Center. The volunteer workdays will continue throughout the summer at: 9 a.m. Monday, May 17; 9 a.m. Monday, June 21; 9 a.m. Monday, July 26; 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 16; and 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 25. For more information, visit 260-468-2127.

### Wabash County Animal Shelter partnership to pair emerging readers with dogs, cats

The local Literacy for Companionship program will be held on the third Thursday of each month, with the next one

scheduled for May 20 at the Wabash County Animal Shelter, 810 Manchester Ave. The time will be split into 30-minute shifts from 4 to 6 p.m., with four children scheduled per session. There is no cost for the program and the parents or guardians will be with the children at all times. For more information, call 260-563-3511.

### Manchester University sets in-person graduation ceremonies

Several small, in-person ceremonies are scheduled for Saturday, May 22 in Cordier Auditorium on the North Manchester campus. Graduate and Professional ceremony are at 9 a.m. for Doctor of Pharmacy, Master of Athletic Training, Master of Pharmacogenomics, and the dual degree in pharmacy and pharmacogenomics (Pharm.D. and MS in Pgx). Undergraduate and Master of Accountancy (M.Acct.) ceremonies are in this order: 11:30 a.m. Honors Program, College of Arts and Humanities, M.Acct. and Gilbert College of Business; 2:30 p.m. College of Pharmacy, Natural and Health Sciences; and 4:30 p.m. College of Education and Social Sciences.

### Pancake Day planned for June 12

The Wabash Kiwanis Club's Pancake Day 2021 event will take place from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 12 at the newly renovated Bruce Ingraham building at the Wabash County Fairgrounds, located just off of Gillen Avenue. Pancakes, with or without blueberries, will be available, along with sausages and drinks. Tickets will be \$8 at the door and \$7 in advance for adults 13 years and older and \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance for children ages 6 to 12 years. Admission for the event will be free for children 5 years and younger. Sponsorship opportunities for businesses for Pancake Day are available by contacting Siders by email at [donnasiders@hotmail.com](mailto:donnasiders@hotmail.com) or by calling 260-571-1892. Sponsors would receive complimentary tickets to the event and on-site recognition in exchange for their support for only \$150.

### INDOT begins Indiana 13 and 15 Wabash River bridgework

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has announced bridge maintenance work over the Wabash River on Indiana 13 and Indiana 15 in Wabash. The northbound lanes between Lafontaine Avenue and Miami Street will be closed to traffic. Motorists should use the posted detour of Lafontaine Avenue, Huntington Street and Market Street. The southbound lanes between Fulton Street and Dimension Avenue will be reduced to one lane because of the work. The work is set to wrap up in July.

### Indiana 15 lane closures to last through mid-summer

Alternating lane closures are planned for Indiana 15. The

### 5-Day Weather Summary

<b>Wednesday</b> Showers Likely 47 / 30	<b>Thursday</b> Partly Cloudy 53 / 33	<b>Friday</b> Mostly Cloudy 60 / 45	<b>Saturday</b> Few Showers 58 / 40	<b>Sunday</b> Partly Cloudy 60 / 39

#### Sun and Moon

Today's sunset ..... 8:27 p.m.  
Tomorrow's sunrise ..... 6:55 a.m.

Full 4/26	Last 5/3	New 5/11	First 5/19

#### Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with an 85% chance of showers, high temperature of 47°, humidity of 57%. West northwest wind 9 to 14 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight with a 45% chance of showers, overnight low of 30°. West southwest wind 6 to 13 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 26°.

# Wabash VFW Post No. 286 to hold tenderloin dinner Friday

The Wabash Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 286 will hold a tenderloin dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, April 23 at 3678 W. Old 24, according to Dan Ford. The menu will include hand-breaded

tenderloin, potato salad and coleslaw. The cost will be \$9 per person. It will be open to the public. Carryout will be available. For more information, call 260-563-2463.

# Salamonie to hold Summer Forest Camp

Children ages 7 to 13 welcome June 28-July 2

## STAFF REPORT

Salamonie Lake will be hosting "a unique outdoor day camp," according to interpretive naturalist Teresa Rody. Rody said "we'll be making memories" from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday, June 28 to Friday, July 2 at Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Children ages 7 to 13 are welcome. Rody said this camp is held entirely outdoors, except for restroom breaks. "The focus will be on water activities and will include a daily hike, sit spots, games, shelter building, small groups to prepare and present short presentations on nature topics," said Rody. "Participants will also meet live wildlife

through educational ambassadors." Rody said participants should dress for the weather. "Bring water shoes that can get wet and muddy, an extra set of dry clothes, sunscreen, hats and bug spray," said Rody. "There are many physical, emotional, and mental benefits to spending time outside for all ages. Participants should plan to bring their sack lunch, drinks and snacks." Rody said limited space is available. The cost per child is \$60 and \$55 for each additional sibling. Register and pay by Monday, June 14 and save \$10 per child. Rody said in compliance with the Back on Track Indiana Plan, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) social distancing guidelines and use of face coverings if indoors or closer than 6 feet will be practiced. For more information and registration, call 260-468-2127.

## FUNDS

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loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive after school programs or extended school year programs, and ensure that such interventions respond to students' academic, social and emotional needs and address the needs of special populations," said Gremaux. Gremaux said they "take the learning loss of 2020-21 very seriously." "We are working toward finding targeted interventions to meet the needs of our students as identified by our formative assessment data," said Gremaux. "We are very grateful for the opportunity to receive these funds and will utilize them in a way that allows us to target the needs of our school district, yet remain fiscally responsible in the process." On Tuesday, MSD superintendent Mike Keaffaber said the funds would allow them

"to focus on accelerating learning academically and additional support of students' social and emotional learning due to the challenges created by the worldwide pandemic." "MSD of Wabash County has been very fortunate due to the hard work by the staff, students and parents keeping us in school throughout this entire school year," said Keaffaber. Lawson said planning allocations for Indiana's non-public schools, which together total an additional \$78 million, will be released later this spring. "With this funding, schools can reimburse approved expenses incurred through September 2024 that address some of the greatest challenges schools continue to face as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic," said Lawson. WCS officials did not return requests for comment as of press time, but this story will be updated as more information becomes available. Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at [rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com).

# Wabash Plain Dealer

VOL. 163 NO. 31

99 W. Canal St., Wabash, Ind. 46992

### Circulation

- Customer Service 260-563-2131
- Telephone Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Delivery: Your newspaper is delivered by the USPS and will arrive with your daily mail.
- Missed your paper? We sincerely hope not, but if you did please contact your local post office. To verify that your account is active, call us at 260-563-2131.
- Home delivery subscription rates: 13 weeks, \$59.50. EZ-Pay, monthly, \$18.65.
- Other payment options available

by calling Subscriber Services at 260-563-2131.

POSTMASTER: Send address change to Wabash Plain Dealer, 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

- There will be a \$10 early termination fee to cancel an existing subscription prior to expiration date.

### Advertising

- 260-563-2131 (after hours, press 5 for advertising)
- Classified: classifieds@wabashplaindealer.com
- Legals: legals@wabashplaindealer.com
- Retail: cbrown@wabashplaindealer.com

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**Fax:** 260-563-0816

USPS 663-940

Wabash Plain Dealer  
established September 1858

Published Wednesdays and Saturdays (except on postal holidays) by Paxton Media Group, by the Wabash Plain Dealer, 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992. Periodical postage paid at Wabash, Ind.

No portion of this publication may be reproduced without the written consent of the General Sales Manager of the Wabash Plain Dealer.



# Obituaries

## Frances Slocum Chapter of the DAR holds April meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 11 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Activity Room

**STAFF REPORT**

The monthly meeting of the Frances Slocum Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) took place on Tuesday, April 13 at the Grandstaff-Hentgen Activity Room, according to regent Barbara Amiss.

Special guests were northern district director Adrienne Berger, Kathleen Nave and Richard Baker.

The meeting opened with the DAR ritual, followed by devotions by Tamra Wise. The chapter welcomed new member Kay Shroyer Peas whose patriot is Gabriel Mullins.

The April President General's message from Denise Doring VanBuren was shared by Joyce Joy-Baker.

"We will not be able to gather in person for the 130th Continental Congress is disappointing for all; for me, it is truly heartbreaking," stated Baker. "But I ask you to join me to embrace this opportunity to come together virtually to celebrate the success of our Society. Let us hold our heads high, our faces to the sun and move forward together in our mission of service to America."

The National Defender report was given by Kathleen Nave on dates of note for

April 14. "President Abraham Lincoln is shot at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. by John Wilkes Booth, who cries out 'Sic Semper Tyrannis! The South is avenged.' Lincoln dies the next day, age 56, the first U.S. president to be assassinated, in 1865. The assassination was only the beginning of the calamities and woe for the Lincoln descendants. They had barely begun. The book "The Last Lincolns: The Rise and Fall of a Great American Family," by Charles Lachman, is an excellent read," said Nave.

Committee minutes were on American Indian, Constitution, Conservation, and American Flag.

The program was presented by Berger, on DAR pins. She explained about the national insignia, different recognition pins and ancestral bars worn on a blue and white edge, ribbed ribbon.

The next meeting of the Frances Slocum Chapter will be Tuesday, May 11 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Activity Room, 1241 Manchester Ave.

Prospective members and guests are always welcome to attend. DAR membership is open to any woman 18 years of age, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. Those having questions about their family history lineage information may contact [www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org) or Linda Thompson at 260-563-4661 or Amiss at 260-982-4376.

### Rex Laymon

April 10, 1928 – April 16, 2021

Rex Laymon, age 93, of Andrews, IN, passed to Heaven on April 16, 2021, at his home. Rex was born April 10, 1928, to Lurene Stouder Laymon and Ray Laymon in Huntington County. He married Carilyn Thorn in 1950, who preceded him in death. Rex lived most of his life in Polk Township of Huntington County. He graduated from Monument City High School in 1947.

Rex was a farmer and specialized in dairy farming. He was featured in the Herald Press in the early 1950's for installing one of the first stainless steel milk bulk tanks in Huntington County to cool the milk.

Rex loved basketball and enjoyed a celebrated high school basketball career. Despite Monument City's small size (8-10 per grade) without a school gym, the school was respected for consistently having competitive teams in Huntington County. Rex was inducted into the first Huntington County Sports Hall of Fame in basketball in 1977. Rex held the county record for the most free-throw points in one game for many years throughout the 1950's. Rex also enjoyed bowling and square dancing. He and long-time companion Evelyn Krieg were members of the Belles & Beaus square dance group in North Manchester and Marion.

Rex is survived by his daughters, Debra (John) Denzer, Rhnea (Charles) Livingston, Granddaughter, Caroline (Tyler) Durbin, Great Grandson, John Boone Durbin, Sister, Jan Coldren, Nephew, Dana (Sue) Coldren, Niece, Jenni (Patrick)



Lambert, Step-granddaughter, Tammy (Doug) Weaver, and Step grandson, Tracy (Rhonda) Livingston. He is preceded in death by his parents, wife, and Granddaughter, Dr. Anna Quinn Denzer Emerson. The family will forever be grateful to the excellent care provided by his caregivers for the past 4 months: Kelli Ness, Tammy Weaver, Jamica Wintrode, Allison Wintrode, and Marisa Ray.

Visitation will be held 10 a.m. – 12 noon on Saturday, April 24, at Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, Indiana. Funeral services will be held at noon with Pastor Steve Conner officiating. Burial will be at the Andrews Riverside Cemetery in Huntington County.

Memorials are requested to be made to Heart to Heart Hospice of Marion, Indiana, in care of Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, IN, 46750.

Please sign the online guest book at [www.baileylove.com](http://www.baileylove.com).

Bailey-Love Mortuary is honored to serve the family of Rex W. Laymon.

### Sandra Jean 'Sandi' Kastner

Nov. 19, 1941 – April 19, 2021

Sandra Jean "Sandi" Kastner, 79, of Wabash, Indiana, died 4:54 am, Monday, April 19, 2021, at Wellbrooke of Wabash. She was born Nov. 19, 1941, in Wabash, to Harold and Ruby (Harney) Roser.

Sandi was a 1960 graduate of Noble High School. She first married D. Richard Dragstrem on May 12, 1962; he died May 2, 1970. She then married Robert J. "Bob" Kastner in Wabash, on October 9, 1972. Sandi was a hairdresser, and owned Coiffures by Sandi. She was a member of St. Bernard Catholic Church. She enjoyed golfing, sewing, crafts, and bowling..

She is survived by her husband, Bob Kastner of Wabash, two children, DeAnne (Mike) Clifton of Indianapolis, Indiana, and Rich Dragstrem of Lebanon, Indiana, two step-children, James Robert "Rob" (Peggy) Kastner of Roann, Indiana, and Terri (Todd) Adams of Wabash, six grandchildren, Michael

Kastner of Colorado, Heather Kastner, Kelsie Thomas, Lyndsie Thomas, and Natalie Adams, all of Wabash, and Benjamin Dragstrem of Lebanon, two great-grandchildren, Lacie Thomas of Wabash and Atlee Franklin of Logansport, Indiana, four step grandchildren, two step great grandchildren, and her sister Sharon Lewis of The Villages, Florida. She was preceded in death by her parents, and her granddaughter, Mallori Kastner.

Funeral services will be 10:30 am, Wednesday, April 21, 2021, at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 188 W. Sinclair, Wabash, with Father Levi Nkwocha officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash.

Preferred memorial is Mallori L. Kastner Memorial Scholarship

The memorial guest book for Sandi may be signed at [www.grandstaff-hentgen.com](http://www.grandstaff-hentgen.com).

### Rita Sue Gable

Jan. 19, 1947 – April 14, 2021

Rita Sue Gable, 74, North Manchester, died April 14, 2021. Rita was born in Wabash County Hospital on Jan. 19, 1947.

Rita is survived by her brother, Norman (Laura) Gable; sister-in-law, Judy Gable; former mother-in-law, Nellie LeClerc and sister-in-law, Judy Gump. Also surviving are nieces, Kris

(Kurt) Weimer; Jenn (Greg) Couch; Mandy Gable and Sara Gable; also, nephew, Matt (Robyn) Gable and great-nieces and nephews – Elizabeth, Ben, Zoey, Isaac & Brooke.

Rita was a Gift of Life donor. The celebration of her life will be at a later date. Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

### Clarence Edwin Cox

July 7, 1928 – April 20, 2021

Clarence Edwin Cox, 92, formerly of Wabash, Indiana, died at 7:25 a.m., Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at Millers Merry Manor in Huntington. He was born on July 7, 1928, in Logansport, Indiana, to Walter C. and Ruth Maureen (Parker) Anweiler.

Clarence was a US Army Air Corp veteran. He married Helena Johnson in Wabash, on April 29, 1965; she died March 22, 2016. Clarence worked at Wagners, Essex Wire, and United Technologies 21 years, retiring in 1990. He was a former member of the Moose Lodge in Wabash. Clarence was an avid wood splitter, and enjoyed bowling, fishing, and camping.

He had three daughters and two sons from a previous marriage. One son preceded him in death. He is survived by two step-children, Denna (Greg) Masters of Princeton, Indiana, and Stan (Beverly) Garriott of Andrews, Indiana, six grandchildren, Dusty (Tony) Moore of New Castle, Indiana, Lester (Rebecca) Lawson, Jr. of Hopkins, South Carolina, Randy (Kimberly) Garriott of Newport News, Virginia, Eric (Jamie) Garriott of Silver Lake, Indiana, Tyler (Andi) Garriott of Marion,



Indiana, and Esther (Chris) Cooper of Lynn, Indiana, 18 great-grandchildren, and his sister, Betty Pfaff of Logansport, Indiana. He was also preceded in death by his parents and three brothers, Don, Larry, and Walter Anweiler, Jr..

Funeral services will be 2 pm, Friday, April 23, 2021, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Barbara Gilbert officiating. Burial will be in Lagro Cemetery, Lagro. Friends may call one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

Preferred memorial is Wabash County Cancer Society.

The memorial guest book for Clarence may be signed at [www.grandstaff-hentgen.com](http://www.grandstaff-hentgen.com).

### Judith Jean 'Judy' Lovellette

June 9, 1939 – April 18, 2021

Judith Jean "Judy" Lovellette, 81, of North Manchester, Indiana, died 1:35 pm, Sunday, April 18, 2021, at Timbercrest Healthcare Center in North Manchester. She was born on June 9, 1939, in Chicago, Illinois, to Robb T. and Jean (Garner) Wray.

Judy was a graduate of Horace Greeley High School in Chappaqua, New York, and attended the University of Maine. She married Donald P. Woods in 1958, he preceded her in death. She later married NBA basketball Hall of Famer, Clyde E. Lovellette, on Aug. 27, 1970, in Chatham, Massachusetts. Judy worked at WTHI Radio and TV in Terre Haute, Indiana, until 1972. She and Clyde moved to Wabash in 1979, where they worked at White's Residential and Family Services until retirement in 1994. Judy attended Wabash Friends Church where she found great comfort in her faith and that faith changed her life. She moved several times over the course of her life, from Illinois to New York, Maine, New Jersey, Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and then to Wabash.

She is survived by four children, Robb (Charlie) Lovellette of LaFontaine, Indiana, Linda (Robert)



McLeaish of Indianapolis, Indiana, Cindy Heckelsberg of Millbrook, Illinois, and Cherie Doyle of Indianapolis, brother, Robb G. (Susan) Wray of New Hampshire, 12 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and son, Barry Lovellette.

Per Judy's wishes, there will be no service. Inurnment will be at a later date in Falls Cemetery, Wabash. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash.

Preferred memorials are to Hope 85 or Animal Shelter of Wabash County.

The memorial guest book for Judy may be signed at [www.grandstaff-hentgen.com](http://www.grandstaff-hentgen.com).

### Billy Howard

Nov. 21, 1948 – April 16, 2021

Billy Howard, 72, Liberty Mills, died April 16, 2021. He was born in Wabash, Indiana on Nov. 21, 1948.

Billy is survived by his wife, Verdine Howard; sons, Billy (Tammy) Howard, Shane (Shelly) Howard, and Kenny Howard; brother, Ralph (Dorothy) Howard, step-sisters, Mary Billingsley, Judith Stellar, and Gladys Smith; thirteen

grandchildren; and twelve great-grandchildren.

Visitation Thursday, April 22, 2021 from 4 to 7 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 State Road 114 West, North Manchester. Funeral services will begin Friday, April 23, 2021 at 11 a.m. with calling beginning at 10 a.m. at McKee Mortuary.

Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

## FDA move the latest in a downward spiral

The Food and Drug Administration just gave the green light to abortion pills by mail. They are using the coronavirus pandemic as cover, even as people are getting vaccinated and things

**Kathryn Lopez**



are opening up. It's disingenuous and it is cruel. Some days at Planned Parenthood on Bleecker and Mott Streets in Manhattan, there is an intimidating man who looks a little like a bouncer outside the abortion clinic, waving girls in so they can't talk to a pro-life sidewalk counselor who simply wants them to know that there are other options, that there are people who will walk with them. Sometimes there is contact made, but sometimes the pressure to get the abortion, whether from family, friends or our selfish, disposable culture, is too great. This is not women's empowerment. This is not health care. This is misery, institutionalized and then used as a weapon on young women who need help.

Telemed/mail-order abortion only makes sense if abortion, again, is your priority and preference. Are we really on this Earth to end the life of a developing baby to make our lives more convenient? What about love? Do we set girls and boys up for this? From the scenes I've witnessed outside abortion clinics I've frequented, absolutely not. A few days ago, I watched as a pro-life sidewalk counselor was talking with a girl about how the baby develops and how there is help if she wants to have the baby, and adoption options if she doesn't want to keep the baby. Her response: "I don't care. I don't have time. It's fine, but it doesn't matter to me. I don't care." If society doesn't care, how can we expect people to do so?

We should care about women being able to essentially undergo early-term abortions without medical

supervision. One of the pills now available via mail, misoprostol, causes contractions. Women taking the pills can experience bleeding and nausea, vomiting, chills, fever and more. Pro-life doctors have raised concerns about the safety of these pills, about emergency-room visits and even deaths tied to them. And according to the Guttmacher Institute (friends of Planned Parenthood), chemical abortions have skyrocketed – from about 71,000 in 2001 to 340,000 in 2017.

The number of abortions in America increased in 2018, and when all is said and done, based on a lot of anecdotal evidence, I think we will someday realize COVID-19 was a boon for abortion – especially in states run by Democratic governors who were sure to keep abortions happening at the height of the shutdown, even when people couldn't get lifesaving procedures. At a time when we were talking about saving lives, access to life-ending procedures and pills were protected.

We all have become too used to abortion. And the FDA's move to allow abortion by mail only makes it more hidden, more remote from the lives of anyone other than the girl left to her dorm room or wherever else to deal with the reality of ending the developing life inside her. Whatever you think about abortion, that's what's happening. Shouldn't it be a matter of common ground for people of good will to not abandon young women in this way, to leave them alone with this momentous decision? And to let them know there are other options? Why are the abortion industry, the Democratic party and abortion-clinic "escorts" so afraid of information and accompaniment when it comes to abortion? Women deserve better. And we will never be a kinder, more humane people without some serious examination of this bloody cruelty.

*Kathryn Jean Lopez can be contacted at [klopez@nationalreview.com](mailto:klopez@nationalreview.com).*

**Giving Day 2020 raised more than \$240,000 from more than 350 gifts**

**By ANNE GREGORY**

Manchester University has set Giving Day 2021 for Wednesday, April 21.

Gifts go to The Manchester Fund, which helps provide scholarships for students who might not otherwise be able to afford a Manchester education. It also covers many day-to-day expenses – from lab equipment to baseballs to utility bills.

The theme is Acorns to Oaks, a nod to the towering

oak trees on the North Manchester campus. First-year students receive an acorn and graduates are offered a sapling at graduation to symbolize the strength and resiliency of MU's signature trees.

"Unfortunately, Manchester students are still facing all of the challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic," said director of alumni relations Kylee Rosenbaum. "Despite that, they amaze me every day. They continue to adapt to new styles of learning, figure out how to have relationships with friends and adjust to what has become our new normal."

"The reality is that we are still living in a global pan-



**Kylee Rosenbaum is the director of alumni relations.**  
Provided photo

and how they will afford their college education. Our students need your help more than ever."

"Giving Day 2021 is a way that you can help. Please consider giving to Manchester," she said.

To donate or check on Giving Day donation progress, visit <https://givingday.manchester.edu/pages/home-2253>.

Giving Day 2020 raised more than \$240,000 from more than 350 gifts.

*Anne Gregory is the assistant director of media relations in the Office of Strategic Communications at Manchester University.*





Jeff Wheeler / Minneapolis Star Tribune / TNS

People react as they hear the news of a guilty verdict in the trial of former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin in the killing of George Floyd on Tuesday at the Hennepin County Government Center in Minnesota.

# Chauvin guilty of murder and manslaughter in Floyd’s death

By **AMY FORLITI, STEPHEN GROVES, TAMMY WEBBER and STEVE KARNOWSKI**  
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Former Minneapolis Officer Derek Chauvin was convicted Tuesday for murder and manslaughter for pinning George Floyd to the pavement with his knee on the Black man’s neck in a case that touched off worldwide protests, violence and a furious reexamination of racism and policing in the U.S.

Chauvin, 45, could be sent to prison for decades.

The verdict set off jubilation around the city. People instantly flooded the surrounding streets downtown, running through traffic with banners. Cars blared their horns. Floyd family members who had gathered at a Minneapolis conference room could be heard cheering and even laughing.

The jury of six white people and six Black or multiracial people came back with its verdict after about 10 hours of deliberations over two days. Chauvin was found guilty on all charges: second-degree unintentional murder, third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter.

His face was obscured by a COVID-19 mask, and little reaction could be seen beyond his eyes darting around the courtroom. His bail was immediately revoked and he was led away with his hands cuffed behind his back. Sentencing will be in two months.

Defense attorney Eric Nelson followed Chauvin out of the courtroom without comment.

As the judge asked jurors if they reached a verdict, a hush fell on the crowd 300 strong in a park adjacent to the courthouse, with people listening to the proceedings on their cell-phones. When the final guilty verdict was announced, the crowd roared, many people hugging, some shedding tears.

At the intersection where Floyd was pinned down, a crowd chanted, “One down, three to go!” — a reference to the three other fired Minneapolis police officers facing

trial in August on charges of aiding and abetting murder in Floyd’s death.

Janay Henry, who lives nearby, said she felt grateful and relieved.

“I feel grounded. I can feel my feet on the concrete,” she said, adding that she was looking forward to the “next case with joy and optimism and strength.”

An ecstatic Whitney Lewis leaned halfway out a car window in a growing traffic jam of revelers waving a Black Lives Matter flag. “Justice was served,” the 32-year-old from Minneapolis said. “It means George Floyd can now rest.”

Prosecutor Jerry Blackwell, who pounded away at Chauvin’s witnesses during the trial, said the verdict sends a message to Floyd’s family “that he was somebody, that his life matters.”

Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison commended the bystanders at Floyd’s slow-motion death who “raised their voices because they knew that what they were seeing was wrong,” and then “told the whole world” what they saw.

Ellison read off the names of others killed in encounters with police and said: “This has to end. We need true justice. That’s not one case. That’s social transformation that says no one is beneath the law and no one is above it.”

The verdict was read in a courthouse ringed with concrete barriers and razor wire and patrolled by National Guard troops, in a city on edge against another round of unrest — not just because of the Chauvin case but because of the deadly police shooting of a young Black man, Daunte Wright, in a Minneapolis suburb April 11.

The jurors’ identities were kept secret and will not be released until the judge decides it is safe to do so.

Floyd, 46, died May 25 after being arrested on suspicion of passing a counterfeit \$20 bill for a pack of cigarettes at a corner market. He panicked, pleaded that he was claustrophobic and struggled with police when they tried to put him in a squad car. They put him

on the ground instead.

The centerpiece of the case was the excruciating bystander video of Floyd gasping repeatedly, “I can’t breathe” and onlookers yelling at Chauvin to stop as the officer pressed his knee on or close to Floyd’s neck for what authorities say was 9 ½ minutes. Floyd slowly went silent and limp.

Prosecutors played the footage at the earliest opportunity, during opening statements, with Jerry Blackwell telling the jury: “Believe your eyes.” And it was shown over and over, analyzed one frame at a time by witnesses on both sides.

In the wake of Floyd’s death, demonstrations and scattered violence broke out in Minneapolis, around the country and beyond. The furor also led to the removal of Confederate statues and other offensive symbols such as Aunt Jemima.

In the months that followed, numerous states and cities restricted the use of force by police, revamped disciplinary systems or subjected police departments to closer oversight.

The “Blue Wall of Silence” that often protects police accused of wrongdoing crumbled after Floyd’s death: The Minneapolis police chief quickly called it “murder” and fired all four officers, and the city reached a staggering \$27 million settlement with Floyd’s family as jury selection was underway.

Police-procedure experts and law enforcement veterans inside and outside the Minneapolis department, including the chief, testified for the prosecution that Chauvin used excessive force and went against his training.

Medical experts for the prosecution said Floyd died of asphyxia, or lack of oxygen, because his breathing was constricted by the way he was held down on his stomach, his hands cuffed behind him, a knee on his neck and his face jammed against the ground.

Chauvin’s attorney called a police use-of-force expert and a forensic pathologist to help make the case that Chauvin acted reasonably against a struggling suspect and that

Floyd died because of an underlying heart condition and his illegal drug use.

Floyd had high blood pressure, an enlarged heart and narrowed arteries, and fentanyl and methamphetamine were found in his system.

Under the law, police have certain leeway to use force and are judged according to whether their actions were “reasonable” under the circumstances.

The defense also tried to make the case that Chauvin and the other officers were hindered in their duties by what they perceived as a growing, hostile crowd.

Chauvin did not testify, and all that the jury or the public ever heard by way of an explanation from him came from a police body-camera video after an ambulance had taken the 6-foot-4, 223-pound Floyd away. Chauvin told a bystander: “We gotta control this guy ‘cause he’s a sizable guy ... and it looks like he’s probably on something.”

The prosecution’s case also included tearful testimony from onlookers who said the police kept them back when they protested what was happening. Eighteen-year-old Darnella Frazier, who shot the crucial video, said Chauvin just gave the bystanders a “cold” and “heartless” stare.

She and others said they felt a sense of helplessness and lingering guilt from witnessing Floyd’s death.

“It’s been nights I stayed up, apologizing and apologizing to George Floyd for not doing more, and not physically interacting and not saving his life,” Frazier testified, while the 19-year-old cashier at the neighborhood market, Christopher Martin, lamented that “this could have been avoided” if only he had rejected the suspect \$20 bill.

To make Floyd more than a crime statistic in the eyes of the jury, the prosecution called to the stand his girlfriend, who told the story of how they met and how they struggled with addiction to opioids, and his younger brother Philonise. He recalled how Floyd helped teach him to catch a football and made “the best banana mayonnaise sandwiches.”

## Biden to Floyd family after verdict: ‘We’re all so relieved’

By **JONATHAN LEMIRE, ZEKE MILLER and MICHAEL BALSAMO**  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Before Tuesday’s guilty verdicts were read out, President Joe Biden said he was praying for “the right verdict” in the trial of former Minneapolis Police Officer Derek Chauvin.

Telephoning George Floyd’s family later, he said of himself and Vice President Kamala Harris: “We’re all so relieved.”

Chauvin was convicted of two counts of murder and one of manslaughter in the death of Floyd, a case that sparked a national reckoning on race and policing.

Biden said he hoped the verdict would give momentum to congressional police reform efforts.

Floyd family attorney Ben Crump posted video on Twitter of a phone call from Biden and Harris to the family. Asked by a family member how he was doing, Biden said, “Feeling better now. Nothing is going to make it all better, but at least now there is some justice.”

“This is a day of justice,” Harris told the family after joining Biden to watch the verdict in the private dining room off the Oval Office.

Speaking hours ahead of the verdict, while the jury was deliberating in Minneapolis, Biden said he called Floyd’s family on Monday to offer prayers and could “only imagine the pressure and anxiety they’re feeling.” The president was expected to address the outcome of the trial Tuesday evening.

“They’re a good family and they’re calling for peace and tranquility no matter what that verdict is,” Biden said a few hours before the verdicts were announced. “I’m praying the verdict is the right verdict. I think it’s overwhelming, in my view. I wouldn’t say that unless the jury was sequestered now.”

Biden said he was only weighing in on the trial into the death of Floyd, who died with Chauvin’s knee on his neck, because the jury in the case had already been sequestered.

The president has repeatedly denounced Floyd’s death but had previously stopped short of weighing in on Chauvin’s trial, with White House officials saying it would be improper to speak out during active judicial proceedings. On Tuesday, White House press secretary Jen Psaki repeatedly refused to explain Biden’s comments, doing nothing to dispel the impression that he thought Chauvin should be found guilty.

The White House has been privately weighing how to handle the verdict, including whether Biden should address the nation and dispatching specially trained community facilitators from the Justice Department, aides and officials told The Associated Press. With word that a verdict had been reached Tuesday afternoon, Biden postponed planned remarks at the White House on his infrastructure package.

Biden’s Tuesday comments came a day after Judge Peter Cahill, who pre-

sided over the trial, admonished public officials about speaking out.

“I wish elected officials would stop talking about this case, especially in a manner that’s disrespectful to the rule of law and to the judicial branch and our function,” he said shortly after sending the jury to begin deliberations.

Defense attorneys often cite remarks made by public officials as a reason to appeal a verdict, in part because they could poison the jury against the defendant.

Cahill delivered his rebuke after rejecting a defense request for a mistrial based in part on comments from California Rep. Maxine Waters, who said “we’ve got to get more confrontational” if Chauvin isn’t convicted of murder. Speaking of politicians in general, the judge said, “I think if they want to give their opinions, they should do so in a respectful and in a manner that is consistent with their oath to the Constitution to respect a coequal branch of government. Their failure to do so, I think, is abhorrent.”

He conceded to Chauvin’s attorneys that Waters’ comments could potentially be grounds for an appeal.

On Monday, Cahill ordered that jurors be sequestered in an undisclosed hotel during their deliberations and instructed them to avoid all news about the case.

Despite Cahill’s remarks, Brock Hunter, a criminal defense attorney and past president of the Minnesota Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, said he considered a successful appeal over remarks like Waters’ and Biden’s extremely unlikely.

“It’s inevitable that public officials are going to comment on a case and its impacts on communities,” he said. “Unless there is direct evidence that statements by a public official directly impacted a juror or jurors, I don’t think this even gets off the ground.”

Floyd’s brother, Philonise Floyd, told NBC’s “Today” show that Biden “knows how it is to lose a family member ... so he was just letting us know that he was praying for us and hoping that everything would come out to be OK.”

The verdict — and the aftermath — will be a test for Biden, who has pledged to help combat racism in policing, helping African Americans who supported him in large numbers last year in the wake of protests that swept the nation after Floyd’s death and restarted a national conversation about race. But he also has long projected himself as an ally of police, who are struggling with criticism about long-used tactics and training methods and difficulties in recruitment.

Vice President Kamala Harris said Tuesday, before the verdict, “Let’s say there is a guilty verdict on the highest charge, it will not take away the pain of the Floyd family.”

“It will not take away the pain of the communities, all communities, regardless of their color or geographic location, that felt sadness and anger in what they witnessed in that video,” she told CNN.

## Sikh group wants probe of gunman’s possible supremacist link

By **RICK CALLAHAN**  
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — A Sikh civil rights organization called on law enforcement Tuesday to investigate whether a former FedEx employee who fatally shot eight people — four of them Sikhs — at a FedEx facility in Indianapolis last week had any ties to hate groups.

The Sikh Coalition’s request came a day after Indianapolis police released a report from last year stating that an officer who seized a shotgun from Brandon Scott Hole’s home after his arrest in March 2020 saw what he identified as white supremacist websites on Hole’s computer.

The coalition, which identi-

fies itself as the largest Sikh civil rights organization in the U.S., said it has sent letters to law enforcement and state and federal lawmakers “clearly expressing the continuing and urgent need to investigate the possibility of a bias motivation” in last Thursday’s mass shooting.

Hole was arrested last year at his family’s home after his mother told police her son might commit “suicide by cop.” A prosecutor said Monday that after his arrest, Hole never appeared before a judge under Indiana’s “red flag” law, which allows police or courts to seize guns from people who show warning signs of violence.

Hole, 19, used two rifles to

kill eight FedEx workers and wound several others inside and outside the facility and then fatally shot himself before police entered the building, authorities have said.

A police report from Hole’s March 2020 arrest states that he became anxious while being handcuffed and asked his arresting officers to cut the tie to his computer, saying, “I don’t want anyone to see what’s on it.” The report adds that while securing the shotgun, an officer saw “what through his training and experience” were white supremacist websites on the computer.

“A complete and thorough investigation — including determining the motives behind this attack and any connec-

tion Mr. Hole has to hate and white supremacy groups — is essential to providing justice and building trust between the Sikh community and local and federal law enforcement,” the Sikh Coalition’s legal director, Amrith Kaur, said in Tuesday’s statement.

Kaur added that the police report released Monday stood in “stark contrast” to a statement a day after the shooting from Paul Keenan, special agent in charge of the FBI’s Indianapolis field office. At that time, Keenan said the FBI had interviewed Hole after last year’s arrest, “based on items observed in the suspect’s bedroom at that time” by Indianapolis police. He did not say what items were

found, but said agents who interviewed Hole in April 2020 found no evidence of a crime and did not identify Hole as espousing a racially motivated ideology.

On Tuesday, Keenan said that “no probable cause was found to initiate any type of legal federal process” against Hole, adding that, “The FBI takes great care to distinguish between constitutionally protected activities and illegal activities undertaken to further an ideological agenda.”

In response to the Sikh Coalition’s comments, he said that the FBI is “not ruling out any motive at this time, including one based on hate/bias.” He said the agency “will be meticulous and thorough in our

investigation and devote as much time as needed to find answers for the victims’ families.”

Indianapolis police said in a news release Monday that FedEx fired Hole in October 2020 when he failed to return to work at a facility on the city’s southwest side. Indianapolis Police Chief Randal Taylor said Friday that the vast majority of the facility’s workers are members of the local Sikh community.

Last week’s shooting was the deadliest outbreak of violence collectively in the United States’ Sikh community since 2012, when a white supremacist burst into a Sikh temple in Wisconsin and shot 10 people, killing seven.





## Manchester esports Smash team wins GLEC title over Trine

James Stefanatos, of North Manchester, and August Elliott, of Wabash, contributed

By ANNE GREGORY

Manchester University Esports Smash won the Great Lakes Esports Conference (GLEC) championship with a 3-2 win over Trine University on Thursday, April 9.

James Stefanatos, of North Manchester, and August Elliott, of Wabash, contributed to the championship effort.

MUES Smash finished off an undefeated season to secure its first conference championship in program history.

Scholarships are available for "League of Legends," "Rocket League," "Super Smash Bros." and "Fortnite."

Manchester began intercollegiate esports competition for men and women in spring 2020. The University also offers the Manchester Gaming Society, which brings esports enthusiasts together for both casual and competitive play.

The Spartans went into the conference playoff finals as the undefeated No. 1 seed. The team played No. 2 seed Trine. Trine's only loss of the year came from MUES in the final week of the regular season.

Trine made the trip from Angola to North Manchester to play in person rather than online.

Manchester University Student Assistant Trevor Johnson organized the event from streaming to room reservation to the tech set up.

Adrian Allen and Savion Hunter were in the booth for commentary on the match.

Each team gets nine stocks, or lives, as a team, three per person, in a round until one team has no stocks remaining. They then play best of five.

MUES got behind in game 1, 6-9 in stocks, but first-year students August Elliott and James Walsh managed to turn the tables and squeak out a game 1 win.

The Trine Thunder convincingly responded in game 2 to tie the series 1-1. In match 3, MUES senior Mason Cross had an incredible comeback on his character Yoshi to take three straight stocks allowing first-years Collin Eastman and Walsh to clean up the remaining two Trine players to pull ahead 2-1 in the series.

Trine jumped out to an early lead in game 4 which proved too much for MUES to overcome. Series tied 2-2. MUES led with Elliott on his signature Terry character. Elliott took five stocks to start the match, putting the Spartans ahead. Eastman held the lead, taking three stocks, and then anchor Walsh finished it off by taking the last stock from the Thunder.

Overall, MUES was led by team captain James "Alex" Stefanatos, a junior. His selflessness, commitment, teaching and leadership were paramount to the team's success.

The team also had a strong and mature senior presence from seniors Dakota Brown, Levi Doe and Mason Cross, who contributed to the championship match.

Sophomore Que'shaun Julius contributed throughout the regular season and was an amazing help with managing the team.

Most of the stocks throughout the conference tournament were taken by the top three MUES players. Eastman came on to the team as one of its top players, helping everyone regardless of skill level. Elliott brought fire, excitement and emotion to every match, getting the team excited. Walsh provided a cool and collected presence, perfect for the high-pressure spot as the team's anchor.

Total MUES stocks taken for the GLEC Championship (with main characters played):

■ August Elliot: 12 stocks (Terry)

■ James Walsh: 11 stocks (Steve)

■ Collin Eastman: 10 stocks (Cloud)

■ Mason Cross: Three stocks (Yoshi)

■ Levi Doe: One stock (Marth)

■ Dakota Brown: One stock (Joker)

Garrett Schieferstein is esports director. A member of the Manchester Class of 2019, Schieferstein is an admissions counselor. Student Success Advisor Jen Kuemper, Class of 2013, is a volunteer assistant coach.

*Anne Gregory is the assistant director of media relations in the Office of Strategic Communications at Manchester University.*



Provided photo

Manchester sophomore Thomas Richardson has been named the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) Men's Track Athlete of the Week.

## MU's Richardson named HCAC Men's Track Athlete of the Week

By DILLON BENDER

Manchester sophomore Thomas Richardson has been named the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) Men's Track Athlete of the Week, the league office announced on Monday, April 19.

Richardson, from Ladoga and Southmont High School, continued his stellar spring campaign at the DePauw Quad Meet on Saturday, April 17.

Richardson won the 3,000-meter steeplechase at DePauw with a time of 9:35.84. Thomas' time was a new

personal best and it also was the fastest time in the HCAC in the event this spring.

Additionally, Richardson also set a new PR in the 1500m, crossing the finish line at 4:16.69.

*Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.*

## Lions stop late two-point Spartan conversion as heroic comeback bid falls just short

### Manchester football team faced Mount St. Joseph on Senior Day

By DILLON BENDER

Trailing by 23 points with 4:17 left in the fourth quarter in Saturday's season finale against Mount St. Joseph, the Manchester University Spartans nearly pulled off one of the biggest comebacks in program history.

After a 25-yard touchdown pass from MSJ's Josh Taylor to Wyatt Rutgeron put the Lions ahead 44-21, the Black and Gold needed to score and they needed to score fast.

The Spartans did just that as senior quarterback Bryce Tomasi, from Mishawaka and Marian High School, led MU on a quick, three-play drive that lasted only 72 seconds. Tomasi hit wide receiver Harrington Greer, from South Bend and Riley High School, on a crossing route over the middle that Greer broke to the near sideline, taking it 36-yards to the end zone.

Manchester used a pair of timeouts to slow the clock, while getting a needed stop on MSJ's next possession, forcing the Lions to punt. The Lions were flagged for a kick-catch interference penalty on the ensuing punt which placed the Spartans at their 35-yard line with 1:39 left to play.

Bryce Tomasi engineered another lightning-fast drive that saw the Spartans go 65 yards in just 1:02. Tomasi hit Greer for a big 33-yard gain, which was assisted by a personal foul penalty by the Lions. Tomasi then connected with Joseph Powell, from Beach Park, Illinois, and Zion Benton High School, over the middle from 13-yards out to push the score to 44-34. Tomasi then completed the two-point conversion by connecting in the end zone with tight end Camrom Canniff, from Niles, Michigan.

With only 37 seconds left in regulation and trailing

44-36, the Black and Gold needed to recover the ensuing kickoff. Manchester did just that as kicker Andrew Kibler, from Cape Coral, Florida, and Mariner High School, bounced the kickoff attempt high enough in the air for Harrington Greer to the sky above a group of players to recover the ball.

The fervent Manchester rally continued as Bryce Tomasi hit Evan Vizcarra, from Logansport, for a 20-yard touchdown reception with just 1.7 seconds left in the game. Vizcarra battled and drug a pair of Lion defenders into the end zone with him.

Now trailing 44-42, the Spartans would need to convert another two-point conversion to force overtime. Manchester's magic fell just short as the Lions defended the two-point conversion, sealing the victory.

Tomasi led the Manchester offense with four touchdown passes. He finished the day 13-of-18 through the air for 202 yards.

Dave Paul, from Dearborn, Michigan, and An-

napolis High School, led the Black and Gold with 74 yards rushing while both Christian Smith, from Indianapolis and Arsenal Tech High School, and Zac Montgomery, from Knightstown and Mt. Vernon High School, both rushed for a score.

Harrington Greer caught seven passes for a career-high 159 yards. Joseph Powell finished with four receptions for 64 yards and two scores.

Defensively, senior Nick Tillmann, from Lawrenceburg, and East Central High School, ended the day with 12 tackles, a sack and 1.5 tackles-for-loss. Jaquan Walker, from Johnson, Florida, and Interlachen High School, racked up eight tackles, had three pass breakups and intercepted a pass in the end zone.

The Spartans' 2020-21 season came to an end on Saturday. The Black and Gold were able to play seven contests during the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.*

## Caleb Furst, Trey Kaufman-Renn take similar paths to all-state honors

By BRYAN GASKINS

Associated Press

Caleb Furst and Trey Kaufman-Renn played high school basketball in different corners of the state.

Their careers followed remarkably similar journeys.

The two talented big men each led their schools to state titles in 2019. Both had their teams poised for a repeat in 2020 – until the COVID-19 pandemic shut down the tournament. And this year, the seniors at Fort Wayne Blackhawk Christian and Silver Creek helped their schools win unconventional back-to-back state crowns.

On Tuesday, the dynamic duo found itself linked one more time – fittingly as the top vote-getters on this year's Associated Press All-State team. They finished tied in voting by a panel of sportswriters, broadcasters and coaches around the state. Players are selected regardless of grade level or which class their schools compete.

The announcement comes less than a week after Furst and Kaufman-Renn finished first and second in the IndyStar Mr. Basketball Award voting with Furst, of Blackhawk Christian, becoming

the first Class A or 2A player to win the award since 2010.

Their connection will continue next season, too, as they team up at Purdue.

The 6-foot-10 Furst averaged 21.4 points, 14.1 rebounds and 3.0 assists for the Class 2A state champs. He also won the Class A title in 2019.

Kaufman-Renn finished his prep career by averaging 24.5 points, 11.8 rebounds and 3.6 assists and a second straight Class 3A crown.

But this year's senior class is known more for its depth than its star power – and it showed up in the balloting. Fourteen of the top 15 spots went to seniors including the top five slots.

Two other Big Ten recruits – Lafayette Jefferson guard Brooks Barnhizer (Northwestern) and Homestead guard Luke Goode (Illinois) – and Blackford guard Luke Brown, who is headed to Stetson, rounded out the first team.

Barnhizer put up big numbers – 32.7 points, 11.5 rebounds, 6.5 assists and 3.8 steals – while Goode led Homestead to an undefeated regular season by averaging 19.4 points, 8.3 rebounds and 5.0 assists. Brown, meanwhile, averaged 31.7 points and 5.4 assists and

while making 137 3-pointers, easily the most in the state.

The entire second team also is comprised of seniors, led by Notre Dame recruits Blake Wesley of South Bend Riley and J.R. Konieczny of South Bend St. Joseph. Jalen Blackmon, the Marion star who led the state in scoring at 33.5 points, Shamar Avance of Lawrence North and Brian Waddell of Carmel complete the second team.

Blackmon will play for former Valparaiso star Bryce Drew at Grand Canyon. Waddell, who led Carmel to a second straight Class 4A title, is considering an offer from Purdue, and Avance remains undecided about a college.

Homestead junior Fletcher Loyer, who also has verbally committed to Purdue, headlines the third team. He's joined by two Butler recruits – Pierce Thomas of Brownsburg and Jayden Taylor of Perry Meridian. Evansville-bound Blake Sisley, from Heritage Hills, and Kooper Jacobi, Kaufman-Renn's teammate at Silver Creek. Jacobi will play next season at Toledo are the other third-team members.

Butler recruit D.J. Hughes from Lawrence North was one of 20 players to receive high honorable mention.

### Associated Press 2020-21 Indiana All-State Teams

#### FIRST TEAM

Caleb Furst, 6-10, Sr., Fort Wayne Blackhawk Christian  
Trey Kaufman-Renn, 6-9, Sr., Silver Creek  
Brooks Barnhizer, 6-7, Sr., Lafayette Jeff  
Luke Goode, 6-6, Sr., Homestead  
Luke Brown, 6-2, Sr., Blackford

#### SECOND TEAM

Blake Wesley, 6-5, Sr., South Bend Riley  
J.R. Konieczny, 6-7, Sr., South Bend St. Joseph  
Jalen Blackmon, 6-3, Sr., Marion  
Shamar Avance, 6-1, Sr., Lawrence North  
Brian Waddell, 6-7, Sr., Carmel

#### THIRD TEAM

Fletcher Loyer, 6-4, Jr., Homestead  
Pierce Thomas, 6-6, Sr., Brownsburg  
Jayden Taylor, 6-3, Sr., Perry Meridian  
Blake Sisley, 6-9, Sr., Heritage Hills  
Kooper Jacobi, 6-6, Sr., Silver Creek

#### HIGH HONORABLE MENTION

C.J. Gunn, Lawrence North; Curt Hopf, Barr-Reeve; D.J. Hughes, Lawrence North; Gus Etchison, Hamilton Heights; Tae Davis, Warren Central; Jalen Washington, Gary West; Lincoln Hale, Linton-Stockton; Leland Walker, North Central (Indianapolis); Christopher Mantis, Lowell; Connor Essegian, Central Noble; Colson Montgomery, Southridge; Braden Smith, Westfield; Isaiah Swope, Castle; Joey Bomba, Bloomington South; Harold Woods, Hammond; Will Lovings-Watts, Jeffersonville; Blake Davison, Leo; Ian Scott, Plainfield; Quimari Peterson, Gary West; Jalen Jackson, Fort Wayne Carroll.

#### HONORABLE MENTION (alphabetical order)

Demetrius Allen, Leo; Stephen Atkinson, Owen Valley; Ashton Beaver, Lafayette Jefferson; Andrew Bennett, Shenandoah; Joseph Bobilya, Guerin Catholic; Vincent Brady, Indianapolis Cathedral; Jayden Brewer, Ben Davis; Zane Burke, Fort Wayne Blackhawk Christian; Jake Chapman, Tri-Central; Tayshawn Comer, Indianapolis Cathedral; Koron Davis, Bowman Academy; Owen Dease, Evansville Reitz; Quintin Floyd, Gary 21st Century; Brycen Graber, Barr-Reeve; Travis Grayson, Chesterton; Kyle Sanders, Western; Coleman Sater, Edgewood; Noah Gordon, Mt. Vernon (Posey); Langdon Hatton, North Harrison; Jake Heibredner, Floyd Central; Jamie Hodges, Michigan City; Jalen Hooks, Indianapolis Attucks; Brady Hunt, Delta; Greg Jenkins, Lawrence Central; Christian Johnson, Parke Heritage; Noah Johnston, Twin Lakes; Lynn King, South Bend Adams; Lane Lauderbaugh, South Decatur; Leyton McGovern, McCutcheon; Chandler Moore, Evansville North; Jake Moynihan, Seton Catholic; Julian Norris, Evansville Bosse; Brandon Northern, Silver Creek; Christian Nunn, Liberty Christian; Jackson Paul, Churubusco; Joe Phinisee, McCutcheon; Darrell Reed, Hammond; Carson Rich, Southwood; Kaden Stanton, New Albany; Peter Suder, Carmel; Caleb Swearigan, Northview; Trevor Taylor, Bloomington South; Naylon Thompson, Fort Wayne Luers; Cael Vanderbush, Plainfield; Kolden Vanlandingham, Northeastern; Charlie Williams, Carmel; Brody Whitaker, Greencastle; Cole Wireman, Kouts.







# Opinion

## SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

**U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.**  
B33 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
1-202-224-5623  
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

**U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.**  
B85 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-4814  
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

**U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2**  
419 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-3915

**State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17**  
Indiana Senate  
200 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
1-800-382-9467  
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**State Rep. Craig Snow, R-District 18**  
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200 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
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[h18@in.gov](mailto:h18@in.gov)

To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website:  
[www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl](http://www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl)

## LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to [news@wabashplaindealer.com](mailto:news@wabashplaindealer.com) with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



## DAILY SCRIPTURE

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

# Policing reforms are urgently needed

This state and country are crying out for greater police accountability, and our elected leaders must pay heed.

It's increasingly difficult to argue that the episodes we've all seen could not have been prevented, or that training alone is to blame. In Daunte Wright's killing last week, Kimberly Potter was a 26-year veteran of the Brooklyn Center force and the senior officer at the scene, actually training the others.

Derek Chauvin, the former Minneapolis officer charged with murdering George Floyd, was also the senior officer on the scene last May and also training. Americans must acknowledge that broad, systemic changes are needed to shift incentives toward more just, equitable law enforcement that respects the rights and dignity of individuals. It's a plea the Star Tribune Editorial Board has made repeatedly for years.

To do that, we must first dispense with the idea that death at the hands of police is the province of one race, or one ethnicity, or one geographic area. A recent Star Tribune analysis found more than 200 such deaths over 20 years, cutting across all lines. Everyone has a stake in creating a better system of law enforcement and criminal justice.

Some states are moving past Minnesota in adopting such reforms.

Colorado in 2020 ended qualified immunity for law enforcement – a doctrine that makes it more difficult to hold police accountable. New Mexico recently did the same.

Maryland just passed a sweeping set of reforms that overhauls disciplinary procedures; allows the public to view complaints and police files in cases of alleged misconduct; creates a new statewide standard limiting officers to "necessary" and "proportional" force, backed by potential possible criminal penalties. It also imposes serious restrictions on so-called no-knock warrants and nighttime home raids.

"The job we have in front of us is based on a lot more than what happened on Sunday," Minnesota DFL House Speaker Melissa Hortman told an editorial writer, referring to the day Wright was killed. "This system is creating tragic outcomes. It's a system that we know from the number has unacceptable outcomes in communities of color, unacceptable levels of death and trauma."

The Legislature adopted some necessary and substantive changes after Floyd's death in 2020, banning chokeholds and neck restraints; prohibiting "warrior"-style training; changing the arbitration process in disciplinary cases, and strengthening the role of the Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) Board. At the time, DFL Rep. Carlos Mariani,

who leads the House Public Safety and Criminal Justice division, hailed the changes as creating "a modern accountability framework of laws that will help to end the type of police brutality that killed George Floyd."

But Mariani, in talking to an editorial writer, made clear that he knew even then the work was not yet finished. "It was a start," he said, "not an end point." Republican Sen. Warren Limmer, who leads the Judiciary and Public Safety committee, called the bill at the time "a good first step in effecting responsible policing." Mariani went on to hold 11 hearings on police accountability this year. Limmer, he said, held none. Republican Senate Majority Leader Paul Gazelka now is pledging as a "goodwill gesture" to hold fact-finding hearings soon but added that "this is complex and we are not just going to jam it in the next four weeks." Gov. Tim Walz told an editorial writer that he believes there are systemic, nonpartisan changes that community advocates and police alike can back, including stronger POST standards, additional civilian oversight, ending no-knock warrants, and changing which situations require armed police. The Legislature is where people are supposed to be heard, Walz rightly added, and where real, lasting change can occur.

*This editorial was first published in the Star Tribune.*



# The post-COVID world favors high quality-of-place communities

We are now a year past the darkest days of the COVID recession. As the economy slowly begins to recover, we should recognize that Indiana has still lost six years of job creation. Total employment in Indiana is back at April 2015 levels, and there are only 1,500 more people working than we had back in the summer of 2000. This should be pretty sobering news. Still, as we ponder the pace and shape of the recovery, it is encouraging to consider what good might have come from this disaster.

There are many little things we can point to. Household savings have spiked and many tens of millions of families made investment in the physical stock of their homes. As with any recession there is some of what economist Joseph Schumpeter called "creative destruction." This is the closure of failing firms and a reallocation of their assets to more productive purposes. There are glimmers of hope on firm productivity growth, which languished over the past decade. But one of the biggest changes is a great leap forward on our use of communication technology in business, government and education.

It is hard to overstate this latter effect. A year ago, I didn't know what Zoom was. Today, I have mastered several types of videoconferencing software and pre-recorded an entire graduate class on Open Broadcaster Software. Even old dogs can learn new tricks.

Today, about one in five workers continues to perform their job remotely, and 75 percent of office workers do so. A substantial share of these workers – some studies say one in four, but at least one in six nationwide – will continue to work at home after the pandemic. This will have all sorts of effects, from reducing the demand for downtown restaurants to reducing commute congestion. The substantial shift to online work will also change where workers and their families choose to live.

Between 23 million and 35 million

households will find themselves newly unencumbered by the need to live within an easy daily commute to work. This won't result in a complete loss of geographic attachment. Most of these workers will still need to live near the same metropolitan region, so moves within metropolitan areas will be more common than moves between cities. Still, this will alter the choices families can make and accelerate the already quickening trend of residents choosing better quality-of-life communities.

Of course, this means picking winners and losers as families choose to live in different locations. But, this is a clear instance where the winners will be those places that have been investing in neighborhoods and schools. The losers will be those places who've stuck to the 1960s models of community development or treated the symptoms of population loss rather than the cause. As painful as this will be for some places, it is better that good policies receive brisk reward and bad policies suffer.

Significantly lessened commuting requirements leave workers free to think more long term about their residential decisions. Of course, they'll still want to be nearby the thick labor market regions offered by large cities, but now they can look for homes more distant than a daily commute requires. This may return population growth to a number of places outside the formal metropolitan borders.

Here in Indiana, I think there is a list of likely winners. These are places that have made substantial community improvements over the past decades and continue to offer good to great public schools. Let me focus on central Indiana as an example.

A family relocating to the Indianapolis region for office work that can be done remotely for perhaps 80 percent of the time can cast a wide net. Places like Kokomo, Shelbyville, Rushville, or dozens of places in western Hancock County with good schools and great neighborhoods will see growth. Northward toward Daleville and Yorktown, northwest toward Lafayette and south toward Columbus and Bloomington are certain to see busier real estate markets and new families looking around.

Many other places, too numerous to mention, will fare poorly. The newly mobile families aren't interested in 'worker housing,' a fancy new business park or unsupported claims about schools and neighborhoods. The newly liberated office workers are likely the savviest group of Americans ever to undertake large-scale migration. They'll do their homework.

The formula for success is pretty clear. Communities need good schools, safe, livable communities and some public amenities. I've written this often, but need to be more specific. Population growth in Indiana is now happening almost only in places with good schools. This shift will accelerate that dynamic.

In the last year for which we have data, "A"-rated school corporations saw enrollment growth of 1.3 percent. The "B" corporations saw a 0.06 percent decline, and "C" corporations lost 0.11 percent. The "D"s suffered a 0.79 percent loss, and "F"s lost 9.75 percent of students. To be clear, this is not the fault of a poor rating system. This history is the result of families voting with their feet in an exodus that started long before anyone thought to rate schools.

It is hard to overstate how big this could be. Indiana's current share of this newly mobile workforce is somewhere between 450,000 and 700,000 families. It will take a few years for these decisions to shake out. Workers and businesses still need to explore the full scope of remote work. Families will take time to research where they wish to live, and housing markets will have to adjust. This will take more than a year or two, and there is some uncertainty about how many new families might find Indiana of interest.

Still there is a great deal of certainty as well. I am sure that for much of Indiana, this is a once-in-a-century type opportunity. This opportunity will reward those who prepared. For those who did not, this is a lost chance at growth.

*Michael J. Hicks, PhD, is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and the George and Frances Ball distinguished professor of economics in the Miller College of Business at Ball State University.*

# Small communities, new opportunities

Small communities food distribution is the next step for us in addressing rural poverty and food insecurity. We are organizing plans for food distributions in communities with populations less than 2,500. There are a huge number of communities throughout all eight counties we serve that are very light on local resources to significantly assist families struggling in many areas. We can't address many of the needs, but with some local assistance from a church or volunteer organization, we can impact the food insecurity level if but for a brief amount of time.

These food distributions are not designed to impact thousands of people like the tailgate distributions we offer in all the county seats but are much more localized to impact residents living in these small towns. Our plan is not even to promote when or where they are, but to rely on local small-town word of mouth to drive awareness. We are using our refrigerated box trucks, not our semi-tractor trailers, to get the food to the families. These smaller trucks are capable of providing a substantial impact on the food supply for probably 200 families. We will still provide the same type of food we distribute in our other programming, which is a lot of perishables, primarily fresh produce and other items like dairy and protein when available.

We have witnessed in our larger communities the decline in the number of grocery store options over several decades. There are still several choices, although many require a significant drive or public transportation, if available. In a small community, there may be one or two with limited variety or no option. The decision for a family may be: "When can we afford to drive 20 minutes to the closest big store option and what can we do without until we go or how can I feed my family from the local limited variety convenience store?" This can put a lot of pressure on making healthy choices versus gas money.

Another very helpful aspect of these small community distributions is they don't require as many volunteers and don't take as long to complete as the large tailgate distributions do. We have partnered with three to four volunteers and have been finished in 90 minutes while providing food assistance to 60 to 100 families. Traffic issues are not as sensitive in the smaller communities due to the minimal numbers of cars or people who will walk to the site. County seat venues have hundreds of cars gathering at one time and traffic flow has to be managed similar to attending a concert at a major venue. We know the need is as great as in the larger communities, but there seems to be less anxiety and frustration from people waiting or receiving the food in the smaller locations. Chances are, in a small community you probably know everyone who is there to receive food versus many strangers at the large locations, but even knowing your neighbors can still make receiving assistance uncomfortable, sometimes anonymity is a blessing.

The challenge for us is making the connections and reaching the sheer number of small communities that need this assistance. We need a wider network of interested people who could help us to locate or introduce us to a potential partner in these small towns. If you are connected with a church, local organization or someone we should contact please reach out to Sunni Matters, our director of impact, by email at [smatters@curehunger.org](mailto:smatters@curehunger.org). You could also call her at 765-287-8698 ext. 116. Thank you.

*Tim Kean is the president and CEO of Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana. The Second Harvest Food Bank network of 95-member agencies, programs, 15 senior sites and 35 schools provides relationship building and food assistance to more than 67,000 low-income people facing daily instability in Blackford, Delaware, Grant, Henry, Jay, Madison, Randolph and Wabash counties.*

Tim Kean





# Climate change creates migrants, Biden considers protections

By **JULIE WATSON**  
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Ioane Teitiota and his wife fought for years to stay in New Zealand as refugees, arguing that rising sea levels caused by climate change threaten the very existence of the tiny Pacific island nation they fled, one of the lowest-lying countries on Earth.

While New Zealand’s courts didn’t dispute high tides pose a risk to Kiribati, about halfway between Hawaii and Australia, laws dealing with refugees didn’t address the danger so the government deported them.

No nation offers asylum or other legal protections to people displaced specifically because of climate change. President Joe Biden’s administration is studying the idea, and climate migration is expected to be discussed at his first climate summit, held virtually Thursday and Friday.

The day the summit starts, Democratic Sen. Edward

Markey of Massachusetts plans to reintroduce legislation to address the lack of protections for those who don’t fit the narrow definition of “refugees” under international law. It failed in 2019.

“We have a greater chance now than ever before to get this done,” Markey said in a statement to The Associated Press, citing Biden’s climate diplomacy and greater awareness of the problem.

The idea still faces monumental challenges, including how to define a climate refugee when natural disasters, drought and violence are often intertwined in regions people are fleeing, such as Central America.

If the U.S. defined a climate refugee, it could mark a major shift in global refugee policy.

Biden has ordered national security adviser Jake Sullivan to see how to identify and resettle people displaced directly or indirectly by climate change. A report is due in August.

It makes sense for the United States to lead the way, being a principal producer of greenhouse gases, advocates say.

“No nation in the world has taken the leadership to address this reality, which we face today,” said Krish Vignarajah, head of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. “It’s not an issue that we can punt to 20, 30 years from now. Our hope is the U.S. can take strong action that will produce a domino effect on other nations.”

The United Nations says there may be as many as 200 million climate-displaced people worldwide by 2050.

A World Meteorological Organization report released Monday showed it’s already happening, with an average of 23 million climate refugees a year since 2010 and nearly 10 million recorded in the first six months of last year, especially in Asia and East Africa. Most moved within their own country.

The 1951 Convention on

Refugees defines “refugee” as a person who has crossed an international border “owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion.”

Some argue that’s outdated, but few expect changes to the international accord to account for those fleeing rising sea levels, drought or other effects of climate change.

The U.S. may define the displaced as climate migrants instead of refugees and offer them humanitarian visas or other protections.

Biden ordered the idea to be studied after a landmark ruling last year from the U.N. Human Rights Committee on a complaint Teitiota filed against New Zealand.

Teitiota argued his 2015 deportation violated his right to life. He said saltwater from rising seas destroyed land and contaminated the water supply on the island of Tarawa in Kiribati. Scientists say

the impoverished string of 33 atolls with about 103,000 people is among the nations most vulnerable to climate change.

The committee said Teitiota was not in imminent danger at the time of his asylum claim, rejecting his case. But it said it may be unlawful for governments to send people back to countries where the effects of climate change expose them to life-threatening risks — from hurricanes to land degradation.

“This ruling sets forth new standards that could facilitate the success of future climate change-related asylum claims,” committee expert Yuval Shany said.

Even so, identifying climate refugees is not easy, especially in regions rife with violence. In Central America, for example, thousands initially leave their villages because of crop failure from drought or flooding, often end up in cities where they become victims of gangs and ultimately flee their countries.

“It’s a threat multiplier, and so creating a status or category would have to address this complexity rather than to ignore it or to seek ‘pure’ climate refugees,” said Caroline Zickgraf, who studies how climate change affects migration at Belgium’s University of Liège.

“Does someone have to prove they were displaced by climate change? That’s an extraordinary, if not impossible, thing to ask of someone.”

Global warming is shifting the migrant population from men seeking economic opportunities to families uprooted by hunger, according to Duke University and University of Virginia researchers studying migration out of Central America.

Researchers reviewing data for about 320,000 Hondurans apprehended at the U.S.-Mexico border from 2012 to 2019 found they were largely from violent, agricultural regions also experiencing their lowest rainfall in 20 years.

# Indiana budget deal boosts school funding, construction

By **TOM DAVIES**  
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — A new Indiana state budget awash in federal coronavirus relief money will give a sizeable funding boost to public schools while also paying for numerous economic grant programs and construction projects.

The state budget deal announced Tuesday by Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb and GOP legislative leaders will increase school funding by about 4.5 percent each of the next two years. That is more than double what budget writers proposed earlier this month before new projections showed state tax collections should bounce back stronger than expected from the pandemic recession.

Legislative leaders said the budget plan will cover the \$600 million a year in additional money the governor’s teacher compensation commission found was needed to significantly boost Indiana’s lagging teacher pay in comparison to nearby states. The bill directs school districts to submit explanations to the state if they aren’t able to set a minimum teacher pay of \$40,000 a year.

“We’re making a significant investment,” Republican House Speaker Todd Huston said. “We expect it to be in teacher pay and we’ll be watching closely. It feels like a lot of the pressure on teacher pay has been directed to this building. We’ve stepped up, now it’s time for locals to step up.”

The deal includes a contentious expansion of the state’s private school voucher program by raising income eligibility for a family of four from the current roughly \$96,000 a year to about \$145,000 for the coming school year, potentially

boosting participation by one-third to about 48,000 students.

Public schools officials and teachers unions have opposed that expansion, arguing that its projected cost of at least \$125 million over two years would consume too much of the K-12 education funding increase.

But the \$3 billion infusion of federal relief funding and a projected \$2 billion more than previously expected in state tax collections over the next two years seems to have let Republican leaders go ahead with the voucher expansion and giving \$13 million toward a new program allowing parents to directly spend state money on their child’s education expenses.

“We’re able to get where we needed to be with the public education dollars and that helped to open up this conversation for the vouchers,” Senate President Pro Tem Rodric Bray said. “We think we feel like we’ve found ourselves in a pretty good place.”

The Republican-dominated House and Senate could vote as soon as Wednesday on approving the budget deal and wrapping up this year’s regular legislative session.

Legislative Democrats said they were encouraged by the boost in education funding but emphasized the amount of money coming to the state from the federal relief plan backed by President Joe Biden and pushed by Democrats through Congress without Republican support.

“There’s still some trepidation and some hesitation because we have concerns with the expansion of vouchers,” said Democratic Sen. Eddie Melton of Gary. “This is still siphoning funds away from our traditional K through 12 public schools.”

The projected school funding increases of 4.6 percent

in the budget’s first year and 4.3 percent in the second — for a total additional \$1 billion — follows a decade of Republican-written state budgets that raised school funding by an average of 1.5 percent, drawing criticism about school spending not even keeping up with inflation.

The Republican plan spends about \$1 billion in paying off state debts early, while anticipating that the state’s cash reserves will grow some \$500 million to about \$2.75 billion by July 2023.

Other provisions in the budget partially direct the spending of federal relief funding. That includes \$500 million toward a regional economic development grants program, \$250 million for broadband internet expansion grants and \$500 million into the state’s unemployment insurance trust fund that was drained by the explosion in jobless benefit payments during the past year.

Federal funding is also being used for a \$550 million fund for possible state construction projects, including a new state archives building, a new campus for the state’s blind and deaf schools, new inns at the Potato Creek and Prophetstown state parks and a new state police post and laboratory in Evansville.

The plan sets aside \$900 million of federal money for future state construction projects, along with \$60 million for the state’s recreational trails construction program.

Other big-ticket items include \$400 million for reconstruction of the Westville prison in northwestern Indiana and \$50 million to replace the swine barn at the Indiana State Fairgrounds with an enclosed building for year-round events.

# Wealthy Latin Americans flock to U.S. in search of vaccines

By **OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ and MARCOS MARTINEZ CHACON**  
Associated Press

MONTERREY, Mexico — They travel thousands of miles by plane from Latin America to the U.S., in some places taking a shuttle directly from the airport to COVID-19 vaccine sites. Their ranks include politicians, TV personalities, business executives and a soccer team.

People of means from Latin America are chartering planes, booking commercial flights, buying bus tickets and renting cars to get the vaccine in the United States due to lack of supply at home.

Virginia González and her husband flew from Mexico to Texas and then boarded a bus to a vaccination site. They made the trip again for a second dose. The couple from Monterrey, Mexico, acted on the advice of the doctor treating the husband for prostate cancer. In all, they logged 1,400 miles for two round trips.

“It’s a matter of survival,” González said of getting a COVID-19 vaccine in the United States. “In Mexico, officials didn’t buy enough vaccines. It’s like they don’t care about their citizens.”

With a population of nearly 130 million people, Mexico has secured more vaccines than many Latin American nations — about 18 million doses as of Monday from the U.S., China, Russia and India. Most of those have been given to health care workers, people over 60 and some teachers, who so far are the only ones eligible. Most other Latin American countries, except for Chile, are in the same situation or worse.

So vaccine seekers who can afford to travel are coming to the United States

to avoid the long wait, including people from as far as Paraguay. Those who make the trip must obtain a tourist visa and have enough money to pay for required coronavirus tests, plane tickets, hotel rooms, rental cars and other expenses.

In Mexico, business is booming for chartered flights to Texas.

González and her husband were inoculated in Edinburg, Texas, a city about 160 miles from their home. But with land entry points closed to nonessential travel, the couple decided to take a commercial flight to Houston and then travel by bus.

Earlier this month, 19 players with Monterrey’s professional soccer team known as Rayados flew to Dallas to get the vaccine, local media reported. In Peru, Hernando De Soto, an economist running for president, faced a backlash after he admitted he traveled to the U.S. to get vaccinated.

Television personalities have posted on social media about their trips, attracting the scorn of many viewers who accused them of flaunting their privilege. Juan José Origel, a Mexican television host, tweeted a photo of himself receiving the shot in January in Miami. Argentinian TV personality Yanina Latorre also traveled to Miami for her elderly mother to receive a vaccine and posted a video to Instagram. Shortly after, Florida officials began requiring proof of residency for those seeking a vaccine.

But about half of U.S. states, including Texas, Arizona, and California, have no such requirement and will accept any official form of identification with a photograph.

Many of those traveling have friends or relatives who live in the U.S. and can help them navigate the appointments system or seek a leftover shot. Some have second homes in the U.S., but others borrow a U.S. address. Some said they have read that many Americans do not plan to get vaccinated.

Alejandra, a dentist who also lives in Monterrey, said she decided to seek a vaccine in the U.S. shortly after losing her mother to COVID-19 in February. She registered online at a CVS pharmacy in Texas by using the address of a friend who lives there.

This past weekend, she flew to Houston and on Monday drove to receive her second Moderna shot in Pasadena, Texas. She asked that her full name not be published because she is afraid of retribution after seeing reports that those who traveled to get vaccines in the U.S. could lose their visas.

Alejandra said she felt a sense of calm after receiving the booster shot and thought of her mom.

“What would have been if only my mom had had the opportunity to get the vaccine in the U.S.,” she said.

She knows there is criticism that foreigners like her are taking advantage of American taxpayers by getting inoculated in the United States, but she said she is trying to protect herself and her family.

“The pharmacies are saying that it doesn’t matter if you don’t have documents ... and they are saying it because they are seeking the common good of society,” she said.

The U.S. government is paying for the vaccines and for the cost of giving the shots to anyone who does not have insurance.

# Asian Americans wary about school amid virus, violence

By **PHILIP MARCELO**  
Associated Press

BOSTON — A Chinese American mother in the Boston suburbs is sending her sons to in-person classes this month, even after one of them was taunted with a racist “slanted-eyes” gesture at school, just days after the killings of women of Asian descent at massage businesses in Atlanta.

In the Dallas area, a Korean American family is keeping their middle schooler in online classes for the rest of the year after they spotted a question filled with racist Chinese stereotypes, including a reference to eating dogs and cats, on one of her exams.

As high schools and elementary schools across the country gradually re-open for full-time classes, Asian American families are wrestling with whether to send their children back out into the world at a time when

anti-Asian hostility and violence is on the rise.

Some Asian American parents say they’re content to keep their children in virtual classes, especially with the school year winding down and COVID-19 cases rising in places. Others are conceding to adolescents craving normalcy, while still others refuse to shield their youths from bigotry.

Asian American students have the highest rates of remote learning more than a year after the coronavirus pandemic shuttered school buildings and forced districts to pivot to online classes. A federal government survey released earlier this month found just 15 percent of Asian American fourth graders were attending classes in-person as of February, compared with more than half of white fourth graders.

Those rates appear to be rising in some cities, but are still far lower than those

of Black, Latino and white students. In Sacramento, Boston and Chicago public schools, for example, roughly a third of Asian American students are expected to return to in-person classes this month, compared with some 70 percent of white students, according to the most recent district data available.

Asian American youths have also not been spared anti-Asian harassment. A September report by Stop AAPI Hate found about 25 percent of Asian American youths surveyed experienced discrimination, including verbal harassment, social shunning, cyberbullying and physical assault, during the pandemic. The San Francisco-based group, which tracks incidents of discrimination against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, also says more than 12 percent of its reported incidents involved youths ages 17 and under.

Concerns about virus

spread and rising racism are factors in the in-person learning disparities, but many Asian families also benefit from living in multi-generational households where grandparents and other relatives can help out, said Peter Kiang, director of Asian American Studies at the University of Massachusetts in Boston.

“These ethnic-defined support systems have been operating for more than a year already while parents are out working long hours, so there is no urgency to return to in-person classrooms,” he said.

Another factor is that many Asian Americans live in major urban areas like Boston where schools are only now starting to widely re-open, said Robert Teranishi, a professor of education and Asian American studies at UCLA. Meanwhile San Francisco, where about a third of public school students are of Asian descent,

has no timetable for the return of middle and high school students.

For Grace Hu, a 16-year-old in Sharon, Massachusetts, who has been learning remotely all school year, the decision to go back to in-person classes later this month was easy.

The high school sophomore helped organize a recent rally against anti-Asian hate in Boston, but said she’s not concerned about facing vitriol in school. The district, about 25 miles south of Boston, has a sizeable Asian American student population and she’s felt generally safe and welcomed.

“I’m feeling trapped at home,” Hu said. “I just want to see my classmates again.”

Closer to Boston, in Quincy, a city with the highest concentration of Asian Americans in the state, Kim Horrigan said she and her husband have struggled with their decision to keep their

8-year-old son in remote learning this school year, but for altogether different reasons.

Horrigan said she’s never really considered racism a threat to her family, even though there’s been tension in Quincy over the years as the Asian American community has grown to roughly 25 percent of the population, transforming a city famous for being the birthplace of two American presidents.

Instead, she’s most concerned about exposing her household, which includes her Chinese immigrant parents, who are in their 70s, and two younger children, to COVID-19. At the same time, Horrigan worries about her son falling behind the longer he’s home.

“We’ve taken so many precautions and sacrificed so much,” she said. “Why would we drop our guard now, with just a few weeks left?”





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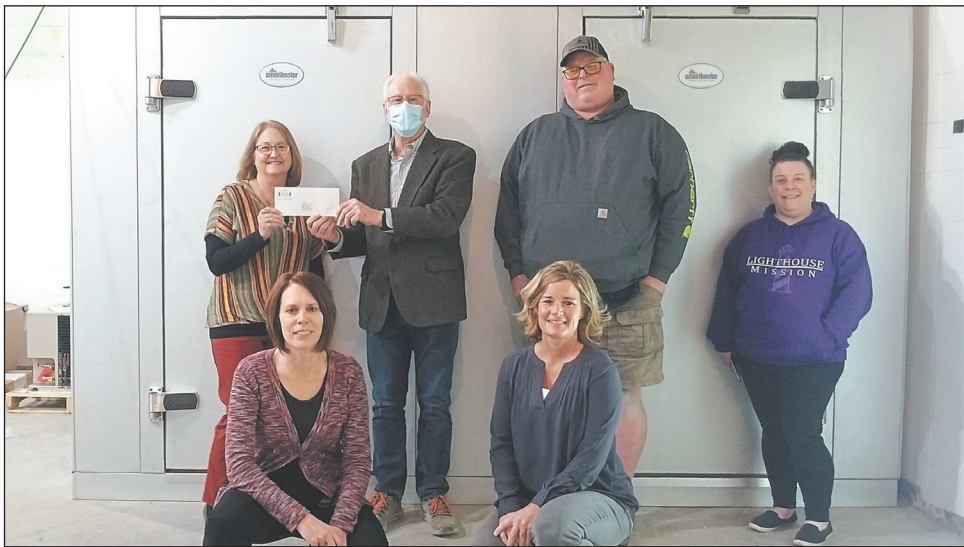
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## WCUF

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Johnson said a WCUF Board of Directors accepted and approved the review committee's funding recommendations.

"Each organization completed an application request and submitted the applications to us," said Johnson on Tuesday. "All application proposals were reviewed and considered by the committee. We had one proposal that was not funded."

The following projects were funded by the grant:

### Grow Wabash County - \$15,000

"It is well known that Wabash County needs well-paying jobs and that our businesses need skilled workers to be competitive," said Johnson. "To meet this need, Grow Wabash County requested funding for training scholarships for Wabash County residents. Those who have been financially challenged by COVID-19 will qualify. The scholarships will be used for training courses related to welding, CNC machining or other in-demand skills to help them obtain those higher-wage jobs."

### Lighthouse Missions Thrift Store - \$5,000

"Lighthouse Missions, 85 Hope, F.I.S.H. and Advantage Housing provide unique services for the low to the moderate-income population in our communities," said Johnson. "Lighthouse Missions requested funding to help offset the cost of purchasing a walk-in cooler and freezer that will allow their collective organizations to store and distribute larger quantities of fresh and frozen foods to their clients from the new West Canal Street facility."

### Manchester Early Learning Center (MELC) - \$4,625

"Through additional staffing, custodial protocols and staff training, MELC ex-

pected to continue to keep children as safe and healthy as possible as they complied with state guidelines and mandates for childcare facilities," said Johnson. "Specifically, MELC will use ERG II funding to hire an assistant teacher to accommodate the pandemic child to teacher ratios."

### The Access Youth Center - \$11,316

"Recognizing a need to support families impacted by addiction, The Access Youth Center requested funding to provide free, easily accessible recovery resources and a meal to people living at or below the poverty level, and others, in our community who may be dealing with food insecurity as well as substance abuse issues," said Johnson. "The pandemic has frequently aggravated both these issues. The Access will enlist the services of an addictions specialist to provide group support to struggling clients."

### Advantage Housing (AHI) - \$35,559

"The AHI grant request was to help provide 10 apartments - eight efficiencies and two 3-bedrooms - to be used for temporary housing options," said Johnson. "The challenge for our low- and very-low-income neighbors is to find safe, healthy and affordable housing, often combined with a lack of gainful employment. Advantage Housing is striving to create housing opportunities with a combination of housing counseling and temporary housing inventory. In this way, people who are impacted by COVID-19 may have the proper time to experience financial recovery."

Johnson said the WCUF created the ERG for Wabash County nonprofits in response to the increased demand experienced by these organizations that provide services to families in need.

Johnson said the WCUF and its network of donor organizations and companies offer this ERG "to provide immediate support for those who need it most, through the nonprof-

it organizations that serve them."

"There are so many wonderful local individuals and organizations that are reaching out to help their friends and neighbors that have been impacted by this pandemic," said Johnson. "The United Fund is very glad to be able to support the valuable work of these five organizations."

Johnson said to be eligible for funding through WCUF, an organization must be a 501c3 nonprofit that serves Wabash County residents. Each group must be able to provide its latest financial audit or most recent board-approved financial statement and have the capacity to respond to the individuals and families impacted by COVID-19 promptly. Also, an organization must be able to document and report on how the funds meet the identified needs. Applicants did need not to be a current funded partner of WCUF to be eligible.

Johnson said the ERG fund is made possible, in part, through support from Lilly Endowment, Indiana United Ways (IUW), with additional local support from Ford Meter Box Foundation, Owens Corning Thermafiber, Paperworks and First Financial Foundation.

"All of these organizations stepped up to support Wabash County residents impacted by the pandemic," said Johnson.

Johnson said they submitted a grant application to receive these funds from IUW, the professional association to which United Fund belongs.

"IUW received the funds from the Lily Endowment and were to be used to benefit social service organizations impacted by COVID," said Johnson. "We have been notified that an additional distribution of funds is being made to available. We are drafting a new proposal for this grant that would bring an additional \$85,000 to \$90,000 to our community."

For more information, email [steve.johnson@wcunitedfund.org](mailto:steve.johnson@wcunitedfund.org) or call 260-563-6726.

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## VACCINES

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coronavirus following corrections to the previous day's dashboard.

To date, 12,826 Hoosiers are confirmed to have died from COVID-19, an increase of eight from the previous day. Another 408 probable deaths have been reported based on clinical diagnoses in patients for whom no positive test is on record.

A total of 3,337,834 unique individuals have been tested in Indiana, up from 3,336,468 on Monday. A total of 9,478,262 tests, including repeat tests for unique individuals, have been reported to the state Department of Health since Feb. 26, 2020.

To find testing sites around the state, visit [www.coronavirus.in.gov](http://www.coronavirus.in.gov) and click on the COVID-19 testing information link.

Hoosiers age 16 and older are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. To schedule a vaccine, visit <https://ourshot.in.gov> or call 211 if you do not have access to a computer or require assistance.

Appointments are still available at mass vaccination site at the former Roosevelt High School in Gary, which is offering the Pfizer vaccination. The Gary clinic is offering vaccinations from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. CDT at 2401 Harrison St., Gary, IN 46407. Free transportation to and from the site is available through the Gary Public Transportation Corporation (GPTC) and a partnership between IU Health and Lyft. Language interpretation and support for those with disabilities, hearing or vision impairments are also available onsite.

Additional FEMA clinics are planned from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Saturday

at the Tolson Center, 1320 Benham Ave., Elkhart; and Center Lake Pavilion, 119 E. Canal St., Warsaw.

The ISDH also will host mobile clinics from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Thursday at First Church of God, 1200 Depoy Drive, Columbia City; Logansport Welcome Center, 418 4th St., Logansport; and Bedford First Assembly of God, 2601 27th St., Bedford.

As of Tuesday, a total of 3,785,172 doses have been administered in Indiana. This includes 2,191,407 first doses and 1,593,765 individuals who are fully vaccinated. The fully vaccinated number represents individuals who have received a second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines and those who received the single Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

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Provided photos

The theater opened in 1951 on 17 acres on Wabash's northeast side and is currently operated by the Honeywell Foundation.



An exit drive connects all of the parking drives and exits the grounds onto the state highway south of the entry and large sign.

## DRIVE-IN

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all of the parking drives and exits the grounds onto the state highway south of the entry and large sign. A playground with metal play structures is located just west of the exit drive," said Tate.

Tate said the theater was eligible for inclusion "for its demonstration of evolving forms of recreation."

"With the explosion of outdoor movie theaters in the 1950s, and their subsequent demise, the 13-24 Drive-In is an exceptionally well-preserved example with nearly all its buildings and structures extant," said Tate.

Tate said "because of the rarity of the resources" the property also qualified for architecture.

Board member Jason Larrison said there had been a duplicate of the theater's sign in Columbus, but that one had "unfortunately been torn down."

Tate said there were around 10 other drive-in theaters included on the state's registry, but that the 13-24 Drive-In Movie Theater was the one that was best preserved.

During the public comment portion, Michael Beauchamp - who co-owns the property along with his son, Parker Beauchamp - offered a humorous bit of personal testimony.

"When I was in high

school I was on a date and I was so excited about this date that I drove off with one of those speakers still attached," he said, to laughter.

Deputy director Chris Smith then jokingly addressed Beauchamp.

"So it's not pristine because of you, that's what you're saying?" he said.

Without missing a beat, Beauchamp responded.

"No sir, I honestly returned it right away," said Beauchamp, to more laughter.

The board then voted in favor of inclusion unanimously.

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